Redstone Rocket

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

February 18, 2004

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Helping take care of Soldiers

2004 Army Emergency Relief has \$70,000 campaign goal

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Maj. James Bamburg looked through the list of ways Army Emergency Relief can help active and retired Soldiers and their family members. Through 18 years of service, he can put faces with them.

"I've seen guys with family members that passed away that needed help. I can identify with almost each one of these where they received some form of assistance," said Bamburg, chairman of the 2004 AER fund-raising campaign. "It's pretty much taking care of all the basic needs for the Soldier."

AER provides grants and loans to active duty and retired Soldiers, widows or widowers and family members during times of emergency financial need. The annual campaign is March 1 through May 15 with a \$70,000 goal.

"It's a way for servicemembers and their family to receive financial assistance for any emergency that may come up that involves their finances," AER officer Kristi Foster said. "And it's Soldiers taking care of other Soldiers. I've had lots of Soldiers in my office that never thought they'd need AER. And they were very surprised to find themselves needing assistance and they were always grateful that AER was here."

Staff Sgt. Stephanie Owens, co-chairman of the campaign, has seen the community's support for AER since arriving in January 2002 from Germany. "I've never seen any other post pay so much attention and give as much. It's like a big thing," she said.

Last year's drive raised a record \$104,433, eclipsing the \$65,000 goal. "The past three years we've set records," Foster said.

But the need remains. There were 512 actions of AER assistance, totaling \$361,911, for active and retired service-members, widows and family members during 2003 in the Redstone community. This represented 29 more actions and \$10,000 more payouts than 2002.

"Seventy-six days is what we have to meet our goal," Bamburg said. "And it's important they understand the assistance goes beyond the 76 days. It's 365 days a year."

Actual cases of assistance include the widow of a military retiree. Until her survivor's benefits begin, she depends on \$300 a month in Social Security with no other income. AER gives her a grant for her mortgage and utilities.

A Soldier has a family member receiving special care under the Exceptional Family Member Program. The family car

See Campaign on page 5



Photo by Skip Vaughn

DRIVE LEADERS— From left are co-chairman Staff Sgt. Stephanie Owens, chairman Maj. James Bamburg and AER officer Kristi Foster.

Waiting wife battles emotions on home front



Courtesy photo

LEFT BEHIND— Karon Ellison and her son, Jarome Garner, 15, try to make the best of a difficult situation. Karen's husband, Staff Sgt. Will Ellison, was deployed to Kuwait in February 2003.

Reservist husband serves in Kuwait

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer sandyr@htimes.com

It's day 59 for Karon Ellison and her teenage son, Jarome. Fifty-nine days until her husband, Will, returns from an Army Reserve deployment to Kuwait. Only 59 days left, unless the Army extends his tour yet again.

"Will was supposed to be back in November but they postponed it until February," Ellison said. "When I got the letter in January, saying he wouldn't come home until April, I nearly lost it. This deployment has been so hard. I'm almost afraid to get my hopes up that he's really coming home. That's why we're having a countdown. It

makes it real for both of us. Putting that X on the calendar gets me through another day."

It's almost as hard for her to believe Will is coming home as it was for her to believe he was leaving back in February 2003. He'd been in the Reserves 19 years, married to Karon less than two years when his unit, Alpha Company, 926th Engineering Battalion, was notified they were headed to the Gulf. Neither had experienced a deployment before. The war was yet to come.

"I picked him up from drill that weekend and he told me when he got in the car, "We're leaving in three days.' I couldn't believe we had such short notice but he's always telling me that that's how the military is. I had it set in my mind that they would go to Fort Benning (Ga.) and then

See Emotions on page 9

Letters to the Editor

Regulations should be posted

don't remember the exact month the article was published, however, in November or December 2003, the Redstone Rocket — under "Crimes, accidents and others occurrences" - said an individual was issued a violation notice for the use of a radar detecting device while operating his or her vehicle on a federal installation. In the Feb. 11 edition of the Redstone Rocket, a violation notice was issued for improper use of radar detector.

I am sure there are hundreds of other drivers that enter the installation each day with radar detecting devices in the vehicles and are not aware that they are in violation of a federal traffic regula-

When a driver requests an installation decal for his vehicle, he knows or someone will tell him what documents are required for registration. Instructions are also provided on the proper placement of the decal in the vehicle's windshield.

Posted just prior to the entrance of all gates, there are signs that clearly state things that vehicle driver is subject to undergo while operating his vehicle on the installation. Additionally, there are signs that explain about guns, ammo and knives that may be on one's person.

As one drives along the roadway on Redstone, he will see the same regulatory and information signs that pertain to operating a vehicle safely on a roadway within Alabama. The signs include, but are not limited to, stop, yield, curves, side or crossroads, deer crossing, picnic area, firehouse and road marking, do not

Alabama does not have a law with regard to the use of radar detecting devices in privately owned vehicles, therefore, each day that a driver enters Redstone with his radar detecting device attached to the windshield, he has committed a violation. This was not the driver's intent when he departed home for work this morning, but because of unknown or rarely published information with regard to the use of radar detecting devices on the installation, the driver has unknowingly committed a violation.

I know, "ignorance of the law is no excuse," so please keep us posted on any new changes to the federal traffic regulations and please publish them so we can be in compliance.

Willie R. Roy Sr.

Question of improper use

noticed that there was one violation for improper use of radar detector in the column reporting crimes, accidents and other occurrences. What constitutes "improper use of radar detector" on the Arsenal?

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for allowing the Directorate of Public Safety the opportunity to respond to the reader's

question concerning the use of radar detectors. Per Department of Defense Instruction 6055.4 E3.11.3, DoD Traffic Safety Program, 'The use of radar or laser detection devices to indicate the presence of speed recording instruments or to transmit simulated erroneous speeds is prohibited on DoD installations.'

"Therefore, the operation of any radar detector is prohibited on Redstone Arsenal and such use subjects the user to the possibility of receiving a citation such as the case cited by the reader.'

Response may take time

ver think about what happens if **▼** you as an AMCOM employee or **d** contractor needs the vital services of an ambulance because of a trauma situation at Redstone Arsenal? Best guess, you could be waiting some 15 or 20 minutes depending on the time of day, which way traffic is flowing, maybe how bad the gates are backed up. Take the round trip time and add 5 to 10 more for patient prep in order to transport and your golden hour is gone and you're not at the hospital yet.

For years I have seen a HEMSI ambulance in and around NASA, and I like many of you probably thought this ambulance would respond to AMCOM. In researching the protocol of the local ambulance service, your requested ambulance through the 911 service will be responding from outside Redstone Arsenal, because the ambulance we see is on contract to cover NASA.

I would like to hear the justification for not having an ambulance with paramedics during peak work hours stationed at AMCOM, with a possible response time of 3 to 7 minutes. This question is not to take away the services provided, by DoD employees/contractors trained in first aid, CPR/AED utilization and the

Redstone Fire Department as first response.

Don Shield

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thanks for allowing us the opportunity to explain the emergency medical services system for Redstone Arsenal and hopefully increase your knowledge, confidence and sense of security in this matter.

"When a 911 call is received, the Fire and Emergency Services responds with a fully staffed and trained engine company. Their equipment includes that necessary for traumatic injury, CPR (with semiautomatic external defibrillator and oxygen), diabetic emergencies and anything else included in the basic life support arena. We also have full rescue and extrication equipment and capability. Our response time averaged less than four minutes during 2003. While our crew is en route to the medical emergency, our 911 center is in contact with MED COM (HEMSI) requesting an advanced life support ambulance.

"Once on the scene, our crews conduct a

See Response on page 3

An open lane random survey

What do you think about television's moral standards?

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer kelleyga@bellsouth.net

Chief Warrant Officer Mack Bennett



"For big shows like the Super Bowl, it's too much and things like that just shouldn't

James Watson, contractor



'The current standards and morals on television right now don't bother

Sgt. 1st Class David McElwee



"It's not just the United States' problem, but the whole world's. It's society; morality has gone down. Now it's being reflected on TV."

Staff Sgt. Michael Manchur

"I have children. We all watch the games together and that should be a little more censored. Sports are a family event where you all watch together, but without the



extra events that appear."

Quote of the week

You need only two tools: WD-40 and duct tape. If it doesn't move and it should, use WD-40. If it moves and shouldn't, use the duct tape.'-Unknown

Correction

On page 12 of the Feb. 11 issue, a photo caption incorrectly identified messenger driver Freeman Ellison who was making a mail delivery stop.

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By KIM MASON

Staff writer kimberly.mason@redstone.army.mil

Name: Clifton Nichols

Job: Contract specialist, intern at Acquisition Center

Where do you call home? Chesapeake, Va.

What do you like about your job?

Getting to meet new people. Interacting with contractors we deal with. When I was in the military, I dealt with the end result; now I am a part of the beginning of the process.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Go to the gym and spend



time with my wife and kids.

What are your goals?

To be the best contract specialist that the Acquisition Center has ever had.

Tax assistance staffers promise happy returns

Center stays open through April 15

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

Tax season doesn't have to mean sleepless nights, manuals that read like VCR instructions and a midnight dash to the post office April 15.

Redstone's Tax Assistance Center is now open and its trained professionals are standing by to take the pain and suffering out of personal tax returns.

The center is in its 11th year of operation. Staff members attended a required training and certification course sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service so that they would be up to date on the latest information and tax law changes before opening their doors Feb. 2 at their location just off Ajax Road. They are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. for appointments only. Special evening walk-in hours are 5-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

"We'll be open through April 15th," Capt. Frank Ulmer, tax assistance officer, said. The center plans to observe its regular hours that day, but Ulmer said that may change if necessary.

Those eligible to use the tax center include active duty and retired military and their dependents. Services are provided at no charge.

"We don't make any money off of this. This is a totally free service," Ulmer said. "Really it is a benefit for military people, just like legal assistance is a benefit for eligible clients."

The center can handle most simple returns and some of the more complicated. When returns become too complex to be completed by staffers, they refer customers to outside preparers. "Generally, we try to accommodate everybody we possibly can," Ulmer said. "If we have to turn somebody away, that's the exception rather than the normal practice."

Both federal and state returns are done via computer and submitted by e-filing. Confirmation of their receipt and acceptance is sent by both the IRS and state agencies. "E-files do get rejected. The IRS will reject it and give us a reason why," Ulmer said. "The most common reason is because the social security number put down does not match up to the name the IRS has from Social Security Administration." This mistake can be because of misspellings or name changes not filed with Social Security. He urges those coming in to the center to bring in the social security cards for themselves, spouses and any dependents so that names and numbers can be verified.



Photo by Kelley Land

CHECKING IT TWICE— Retiree Larry Miller and his wife, Odessa, have their return prepared by Spc. Tobias Johnson at the Tax Assistance Center.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

Feb. 6: An individual reported that his personal vehicle was damaged when he drove across a temporary barrier located at Gate 8.

Feb. 7: An individual was detained at the Post Exchange after he was observed concealing several video games and then exiting without rendering payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Feb. 8: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol during an inspection at Gate 1. He was issued a violation notice and then detained until



his blood alcohol level reached the legal limit.

Feb. 11: An individual reported that she had been assaulted by a co-worker while working in the Sparkman Center. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Traffic accidents reported: 11 without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 1 driving under the influence, 33 speeding, 1 no proof of insurance, 1 no driver's license on person, 1 improper passing, 1 failure to use seatbelts, 4 failure to obey a traffic control device and 2 parking violation.

Those receiving a refund have the option of having it sent direct deposit into their bank account or requesting an actual paper check be issued and mailed to them. Ulmer said most opt for the direct deposit, which only takes about a week. Those owing Uncle Sam have similar options. They can choose to have the amount deducted directly from their account on a date they specify or print a coupon to mail in with their payment. In this case, Ulmer said most decide to send their money the old fashioned way.

For those who decide to prepare their own returns, questions inevitably arise. The Tax Assistance Center is there for them, too. The staffers are happy to answer questions in person or on the phone. If they can't tell you what you need to know, they can tell you which IRS publication has the answer.

"Most people who do their own taxes know what they're doing," Ulmer said. "We don't get a whole lot of questions, but we're always glad to answer them."

For those ineligible to use the center, Ulmer cautions those using outside paid preparers to beware of the refund anticipation loan. "A lot of them will pressure you to do a refund anticipation loan," he said. "It's not a good deal." The individual receives a loan within 2 to 3 days of filing instead of waiting for their actual refund to arrive. What they come to learn is that large fees and interest are deducted from their refund amount, so they actually receive less money than they would have if they had simply waited 5 or 6 more days. "Beware of any scam type operations where they're charging you fees over and above what their fees are just to prepare the return," Ulmer said.

"You don't have to go to a paid preparer, either," he added. "The IRS web site is very helpful. I would say you can prepare your own return using just the IRS web site for guidance."

He also recommends self-preparation software available for your home computer, which is similar to what is used at the center. "There are other options besides just going down and plunking down a hundred dollars at one of the paid preparers — if you want to spend a little time and do it yourself," he said.

For more information, appointment scheduling or questions, the tax assistance center can be reached at 842-1040.

■ Emergency medical services explained

Response

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patient assessment and assign a patient priority. This information is relayed back to MED COM and they make a determination as to respond the HEMSI unit stationed at Marshall Space Flight Center or continue to have their closest unit respond. During HEMSI's response we are working to stabilize the patient, extract them from any entanglement if necessary and package the patient for transport. As the patient is transferred, we brief the ambulance crew on our

assessment and the treatment we have provided. They also do an assessment and based on any changes, they assign a patient priority which determines their response to the hospital.

"The F&ES Division responds the same for all organizations on the installation which includes Marshall. Since we are responding from four geographically separate fire stations, our response time to the patient is much shorter than responding one ambulance from one location on the installation. Our contingency plans cover situations dealing with traffic congestion at the gates, and our various Force Protection measures."

Getting *technical*

Laboratory still producing after all these years



Photo by Jim Bowne

MOVING RIGHT ALONG— Dr. Bill McCorkle, director of Research Development and Engineering Center, demonstrates the Segway human transporter.

Research development center marks its 40th anniversary

By JIM BOWNE

For the Rocket

Forty years is a long time in the same home.

March 12 will mark the 40th anniversary of McMorrow Laboratories, home of the Research Development and Engineering Center.

The \$4.4 million research and development facility was first occupied by RDEC in December 1963. McMorrow Labs was named after Maj. Gen. Francis McMorrow, the first commander of the Missile Command. He commanded from June 5, 1962 until his death Aug. 24, 1963.

In November 1980, Dr. Bill McCorkle was selected for the dual role of technical director for the Missile Command and director of the Missile Laboratory. He earned his doctorate in physics from the University of Tennessee in 1956 and came to Redstone in 1957 from a position at Tulane University. He has since served in a number of increasingly responsible scientific and engineering positions, including an 18-month rotational assignment in the Department of Army staff as science adviser to the director of weapons systems.

Since 1981, under his direction, the center has been recognized seven times as the "Best Laboratory in the Department of the Army" and has received the Army's "Excellence Award" 12 times. In the other years, the center was recognized as one of the top three laboratories in the Army Materiel Command.

As RDEC director, McCorkle is an internationally recognized leader in aviation and missile technology. He has been involved in virtually every Army rocket and missile development program since 1956. His contributions include numerous patents and papers in guidance and control, such as the complete guidance system used in the Lance missile and major improvements to the Hawk missile system, including the most recent improvement, permitting multiple simultaneous engagements.

McCorkle has achieved national recognition for initiating and guiding the center's successful pioneering work in fiber optic guidance links for missiles, providing a new countermeasure-resistant capability for finding and engaging both rotary wing and armored targets out of the gunner's line-of-sight. And he has long championed the use of simulation techniques for missile design and analysis and initiated the effort to develop RDEC's Advanced Simulation Center, a major national facility that provides joint, interactive, "virtual battlefield" exercises.

"We've broken the test-fix-test paradigm by developing hardware-in-the-loop techniques to allow us to test actual components and concepts on a high fidelity simulated battlefield," McCorkle said. "Recently, we have developed a pseudorandom urban feature code to simulate vast expanses of urban sprawl for homeland security experiments."

McCorkle readily admits that many changes have occurred over nearly two and a half decades, but on the other hand, some things have remained the same. "Our customers are still here, the PEOs (program executive offices) and PMs (program managers)," he said. Included among the center's customers are the PEOs for Aviation, for Air, Space and Missile Defense, and for Tactical Missiles, as well as the Missile Defense Agency's Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office. RDEC's six largest program manager customers in fiscal 2003 were Patriot, Precision Fires, Black Hawk, Chinook, Common Missile, and Theater High Altitude Air Defense.

McCorkle pointed out that the RDEC no longer belongs to the Aviation and Missile Command, but rather to the Research Development and Engineering Command. "The changeover became provisional effective Oct. 1, 2002," he said. "The changeover was supposed to have become permanent on Oct. 1, 2003. However, because the concept plan had a few unresolved issues, which have now been resolved, the concept plan effective date is Oct. 1, 2004. The permanent orders will be issued at some future date."

There are other differences, too, between the way things were and the way they are now. "The whole concept of developing systems has changed significantly," McCorkle said. "For example, the project offices used to be part of the Missile Lab. I'm talking about the missile systems we used to have back in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, such as the Nike Ajax, Nike Hercules, Nike Zeus, Hawk, Redeye, Honest John, Little John, Sergeant and Pershing. Soon, all the project offices were moved out (of the lab) to the command and eventually moved under their respective program executive offices. The PEO/PM concept really changed the manner in which the Army's missile programs were managed."

Although changes have occurred over a number of years, some of those changes have given birth to significant advances in technologies. McCorkle pointed out that the RDEC has come a long way. "Many people do not know, for example, that the first laser surgery was done right here in the lab in 1963. The first removal of a cataract and the first liver dissection and the destruction of cancerous tumors were all done right here in the lab. Also, we developed and patented the polarimetric radar, and that technology is now being applied to storm warning radars. Finally, we matured the technology of photonic band gap materials which is now being applied to a variety of electronic and photonic devices."

See Laboratory on page 5

■ Research lab has growing list of accomplishments

Laboratory

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Two other processes have changed as well — acquisition and management. "The whole acquisition process has become a far more complex and regulated process than ever envisioned," McCorkle said. "For example, the Department of Defense regulation series is much more complicated. The management process is much more labor intensive. It's now far removed from the hardware-building process."

McCorkle is obviously proud of the center, as well as the professionalism and work ethic of its 2,500 employees. He's quick to point out that the center's efforts have been instrumental in putting innovative engineering initiatives into the hands of warfighters rapidly. When asked about some of the RDEC's most significant accomplishments, McCorkle had plenty of examples.

"Some of the accomplishments that immediately come to mind include the development of the laser, without which we wouldn't have the laser-guided systems such as Hellfire that we have today," he said. "And the development of the [Tube-Launched, Optically-Tracked, Wire-Guided] IIB which led to the over-armor target sensor which kills a tank at its most vulnerable point, and certainly the application of GPS (Global Positioning System) to the Guided MLRS (Multiple Launch Rocket System). The development for Pershing of a re-entry vehicle so that it could survive re-entry and the development of a radar terminal guidance package so that Pershing could deliver its warhead with pinpoint accuracy had a significant impact on our efforts to bring the Soviets to the bargaining table for Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty negotiations during the 1980s.

"And then there is our development of the Stinger man-portable air defense system and its subsequent use in Afghanistan had a huge impact on the outcome of the Soviet-Afghan war. The active millimeter wave guidance package, which provides the world's first adverse all-weather capability for the Longbow Hellfire guided missile, is another significant accomplishment, along with the development of hypervelocity missiles such as CKEM (Compact Kinetic Energy Missile). We have made significant contributions to Patriot, its radar and propellant formulation, Javelin tracker and many other systems such as a new system to predict the readiness of missiles in the field," McCorkle said.

"And, of course, I can't leave out aviation. We've been heavily involved with the development of Apache, Black Hawk, Chinook and Comanche. I am extremely proud of the work that AMRDEC employees did on the Blue Force Tracking enhanced information systems. In five months, we developed a new capability, fabricated about 250 BFT systems, shipped them directly to units overseas, and installed them in the field. Continuously, throughout Operation Iraqi Freedom, we received reports from Soldiers in the field that the BFT systems were working flawlessly. The troops even used the BFT systems to fly in formation during sandstorms and brown-out conditions the BFT systems were invaluable.

Rapid prototyping

Speaking of rapid prototyping, another very significant change would have to be our recent, significant improvement in our ability to perform rapid prototyping," he said. "We are focused on quickly providing solutions to critical battlefield problems. Also, I don't want to forget the Rapid Force Projection Initiative, which had the world's largest interactive live/virtual/constructive simulation exercise. Also our development of the FOG-M - I'm especially proud of our work on the FOG-M — and our counter-countermeasures development effort to eliminate the threat to the viability of most of our anti-armor weapons that occurred when tanks were fitted with active protection systems. We're also the leaders in developing advanced simulator technologies and component hardware and man-in-the-loop testing. One could also add to this list such accomplishments as the development of advanced inertial guidance systems, tracking systems for moving targets, and automatic target recognition systems."

McCorkle then pointed to RDEC's role in unmanned systems. "I am very proud of

our growing role in unmanned systems development," he said. "We have had several demonstrations of remote firings of several weapons while on the move from robotic platforms. We are working through the problems of netting together Unmanned Ground Vehicles Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in a way that takes advantage of each vehicle's particular strengths. Finally, we have been tasked by the Office of the Secretary of Defense to develop joint software architecture for unmanned systems. This common messaging architecture will support interoperability, rapid insertion of new technologies, and plug-and-play capabilities."

McCorkle noted, too, that the center is recognized as the leader in software development. "Our Software Engineering Directorate is the only Army center and one of only four in the federal government which has been assessed to have a Software Engineering Institute capability model Level 4 rating," he said. "This Level 4 rating easily puts us in the top five percent of all software development organizations."

McCorkle has tremendous respect for the center's employees. "I am very, very proud of the efforts that the AMRDEC employees make in supporting our customers," he said. "Our people also work very hard in programs like the Service Life Extension Program, which has docucost avoidance mented numbers approaching \$8 billion; the counter active protection system effort has cost avoidance numbers exceeding \$10 billion; the efforts on the Operation and Support Cost Reduction program, which has saved \$1 billion; and the Value Engineering Program with savings approaching \$3 billion. These employees work hard with our customers in executing these important programs. The results of the value engineering program have been consistently about 67 percent of the total Army Materiel Command value engineering savings and about 33 percent of the total Department of Defense value engineering savings. AMRDEC does boast an outstanding value engineering program.

Growing recognition

"I'm really pleased with our growing recognition in the joint technology development and product insertion world," he said. "In conjunction with the Air Force,



Photo by Bill Richardso

Guest speaker John Johns, deputy commander for sys-

tems support, receives a certificate of appreciation from Debra Kelley, first vice president of the American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter. Johns was guest speaker at a recent ASMC monthly luncheon.

the AMRDEC played a major role in arming the unmanned aerial vehicle Predator with Hellfire missiles, a system used successfully in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. We also developed critical technologies for a modified Hellfire warhead to meet an urgent operational need and fielded this system in a very, very short period of time. This outstanding work by our premier scientists and engineers illustrates why almost all of our customers return and why the number of new customers, many of them joint, is rapidly increasing. This is a real testament to the excellent work accomplished here in the lab at AMRDEC."

Even with all these accomplishments, McCorkle still has a passion for work. "I love my work and I love coming to work every day. To relax, I fly my Cessna Skyline, and I bicycle a lot. I've got over 31,000 miles on my bike."

He has given only fleeting thoughts to ever retiring. "I plan to stay here until I quit having fun or can find a better job," he said.

■ Army Emergency Relief among nation's top charities

Campaign

continued from page 1

he uses to take his child to Birmingham for treatment breaks down. AER provides a loan to fix the car.

The spouse of a deployed reservist didn't receive her money at the end of the month because of a problem with allotment. AER gives her a loan for her rent and groceries.

"I think it's a great resource," Owens said. "There's no other resource in the Army that you can go to for a no-interest loan or grant."

AER, a private non-profit organization incorporated in 1942, provided more than 50,906 loans totaling \$33.7 million Army-

wide in 1999. An article titled "The Best Charities" in the November 2003 edition of Reader's Digest described Army Emergency Relief as one of these charities worth trusting with your donated dollars. AER was awarded the maximum four stars by Charity Navigator, America's largest independent evaluator of charities. Historically, only 5 percent of AER donations have been used for fundraising and other administrative expenses.

"When there's a problem, we usually close ranks," Bamburg said. "This is a good example of the goodness. They're Soldier dollars."

The AER kickoff is March 1 at 10 a.m. at Heiser Hall. For more information about Army Emergency Relief or the campaign, call Army Community Service at 876-5397 or Owens at 313-2874.

U.S., United Kingdom agree on early warning radar

Upgraded system to play role in new ground-based defense

GMD RELEASE

Maj. Gen. John Holly, program director for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office in Huntsville, Alabama, signed a historic memorandum of understanding Dec. 23. The document established a bi-national program to upgrade the Royal Air Force Fylingdales Early Warning Radar to an Upgraded Early Warning Radar. The collective signatures on this document serve as an important understanding between both governments.

Once completed, the UEWR in the United Kingdom will become an element of the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense system. The system detects, tracks and intercepts ballistic missiles in their midcourse phase of flight and functions as a significant component of the Missile Defense Agency's overall Ballistic Missile Defense System. The United States plans to field a BMDS by Sept. 30 to meet the near-term enemy long-range ballistic missile threat.

Site history

The RAF Fylingdales is located approximately 10 miles north of Pickering on the southern edge of the North

Yorkshire Moors National Park in the United Kingdom. Fylingdales serves as one of five ballistic missile EWRs around the world, which together scan North America, northern South America, Western Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and areas of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans for ballistic missile launches. The other EWRs are located in Clear, Alaska, Thule, Greenland, Beale Air Force Base, Calif., and Cape Cod, Mass.

During World War I, the Ministry of Defence used the site as an artillery range and continued its use as a firing range throughout the 1950s. Since 1963, the site has operated as an early warning radar facility to detect ballistic missile launches against the United Kingdom, Western Europe and the United States. Technological advancements over the years made periodic upgrades to the radar system a necessity.

Initially, the radar at the site took the form of three Radomes, colloquially referred to as "golf balls" because of their white and circular appearance. Each "golf ball" measured approximately 140 feet in diameter. Locals affectionately referred to another Radome situated on top of a tower on the site as "the lollipop." Between Aug. 1, 1989 and Oct. 1, 1992, Raytheon contractors replaced the previous radar with a more modern Solid State Phased Array Radar. A truncated "pyramid-like" struc-

ture standing about 120 feet high with three 84-foot diameter sides surrounds the SSPAR

The SSPAR detects, tracks and provides early warning of intercontinental ballistic missiles and sea-launched ballistic missiles. This EWR transmits pulsed radio frequency signals into space that are reflected by objects back to the radar. Then the signals are analyzed to determine the distance, speed and location of detected objects. The equipment that generates and analyses the radio frequency signals remain inside of the radar building

Upgrade program

In a December 2003 Ministry of Defence White Paper titled, "Delivering Security in a Changing World," Secretary of State for Defence Geoff Hoon stated the position of the United Kingdom with respect to the memorandum of understanding. Although Hoon believed missile interceptors and other means of destroying missiles could only deal with a limited ballistic missile threat and were not a substitute for nuclear or other forms of deterrence, he also felt the addition of active missile defenses might complicate the thinking of an adversary.

According to Hoon, "We have agreed with the U.S. to allow the Fylingdales radar to be used for this role, but will continue to examine, with our NATO Allies, the complex web of strategic issues to inform future political and policy decisions. Active missile defences could provide an option for meeting the threat from weapons of mass destruction and its means of delivery." He went on to say, "But we will need to consider the right balance of investment between it, forces for nuclear deterrence, and other deter-

rent, defensive and preventive strategies."
Unlike some of the previous facility

and equipment upgrades, most notably when the three outdated "golf ball" radar became unsupportable and were replaced by the newer SSPAR, this two-year modernization program makes no change to the external appearance of the outer structure that surrounds the radar and houses personnel. The GMD JPO plans to replace internal computer hardware and software housed within the existing radar accommodation. Beyond these internal hardware and software upgrades, no upgrades or changes to the radar equipment itself are planned. By fiscal 2006, analysts can use the UEWR to more accurately perform ballistic missile detection, tracking and identification functions.

As part of the overall upgrade program, the GMD JPO also plans to replace outdated satellite communications equipment with modernized equipment to provide the necessary secure and improved data links to U.S. communications systems involved in missile defense. This particular upgrade reduces the time it takes for information from the SSPAR to reach the U.S. as other GMD elements are brought in to defend against an attacking ballistic missile. Improved communications provide the UEWR with cues that tell it where to look for attacking missiles using information derived from satellite systems. The major portion of this modification will be internal to the existing satellite communications building, which is located in the most eastern part of the RAF Fylingdales site.

Editor's note: This article was written by Spero Zervos, GMD historian, and Mike Finamore, GMD senior analyst.

Redstone units gain 24 during January

Twenty-four Soldiers arrived for duty at Redstone during January.

The Garrison provided the following in-processing list:

• Staff Sgt. Christopher Heil, Delta Company; Staff Sgt. Michael Manchurtega, Delta Company; Staff Sgt. Paula Perkins, NCO Academy; Staff Sgt. Jonathan Jumper, Delta Company; Sgt. Christena Rivers, HHC 59th; Sgt. 1st Class Tracy Turner, LOGSA; Master Sgt. Darren Miller, Delta Company; Sgt. 1st Class Tracey Watkins, AMCOM; Staff Sgt. Michael Williams, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Spc. Jeremy McCarter, Garrison; Sgt. Johnnie Walker, Garrison; Sgt. Thomas Coker, Headquarters &

Alpha Company; Staff Sgt. Travis Singleton, Headquarters & Alpha Company;

• Sgt. 1st Class Nelson Rodriguez-Alicia, AMCOM; Staff Sgt. Mathew Pitman, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Staff Sgt. Bobby Wiggs, Delta Company; Staff Sgt. Miguel Delgadille Jr., Delta Company; Staff Sgt. Khianyon Jones, Delta Company; Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Bromley, PEO CT3, Staff Sgt. Devin Taylor, Delta Company; Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert Long, OMEMS; Chief Warrant Officer 4 Robert Glover, PEO Aviation; 2nd Lt. Amy Glasscock, Headquarters & Alpha Company; and 2nd Lt. Ronald Myers, Delta Company.

Telephone directory calls for new process

Bv JIM BOWNE

For the Rocket

The Garrison's Directorate of Information Management is working hard to establish a new process for gathering the information it needs to publish the annual Team Redstone Telephone Directory.

Susan Caldwell, chief of DOIM's Information Assurance Branch, said once the new process is in place, the DOIM will not notify the community with a blanket e-mail, nor will it notify the community with an article published in the *Redstone Rocket*.

In addition, Caldwell requested that people stop calling Cheryl Navo, previously listed as the point of contact for information regarding the telephone directory.

"What we plan to do is have the DOIM telephone control officer personally contact each organization's telephone control officer via e-mail," Caldwell said. "Each organization's telephone control officer will then be responsible for ensuring that the data for their respective organizations and offices is correct."

Both the Team Redstone Telephone Directory for 2004-05, and its companion publication, the Team Redstone Installation Guide for 2004-05, are expected to be delivered to Redstone employees and organizations in early June.

These two publications are used extensively by current and new employees, and by military families both on and off post. They are also included in the "Welcome Packets" provided by Army Community Service.



Photo by Skip Vaugl

Customer interaction

Members of the Acquisition Center met last Thursday with members of Integrated Materiel Management Center in their first customer interaction meeting. Exchanging introductions are the Acquisition Center's Debra Scruggs and IMMC's Bob Loncaric. "Our total objective is to get to know each other better," Acquisition Center's Castene Basham said, "because when we get to know each other better we'll work together better."

Students get 'awesome' on-the-job experience

Co-op program revived at Security Assistance

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer sandyr@htimes.com

Melisa McWhorter called it "devastating" when the Tyco plant in Arab shut its doors two years ago, leaving the 46-year-old assembly line worker out of a job after 26 years with the company

26 years with the company.
"I'm a single mom with four kids, two still at home," she said. "I needed to find some other kind of job experience."
Because most of the Tyco jobs moved out of the country, McWhorter qualified for a job retraining program and was able to attend Wallace State College. "But I never dreamed I'd be working here."

Here is the Security Assistance Management Directorate, the organization that supports various countries in foreign military sales.

McWhorter is among seven co-op students (five secretarial and two logistics) hired in January through SAMD's work force transformation efforts.

"Our organization hasn't had co-ops in a long time – since I came to work here at least, and that was back in '94," Melissa Brodersen, chief of personnel and training office for SAMD, said. "The commander is trying to focus on work force transformation. Bring in new employees. We have so many eligible for retirement now. More



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

STUDENTS FOR HIRE— Co-op students at the Security Assistance Management Directorate talk about their work experiences since joining the government in January. From left are Mickey Branch, Melisa McWhorter, Kevin Lovejoy, SAMD director Dr. Eugene Paro, Kristie Wilson, Rhiannon Comer and Alesha Chambers.

than 20 in our organization are interested in retiring and we had 20-plus retire last year, mostly international specialists. It has been difficult to recruit in the administrative area."

Job placement couldn't have come at a

better time for McWhorter because her health insurance expired in September. "I've been praying that we all stay healthy," she said. "Now that I'm here, it's just fantastic. The people I'm working with - the job experience. And with what's going on in the world right now, it feels good to know that in my small way, I'm contributing to national defense. It's a great place to be."

"Awesome" is how Alesha Chambers, 18, a 2003 graduate of J.B. Pennington High, described her work experience.

"I started college (at Wallace) in August and got this job in January," she said. "I'm looking at the long term and it's really awesome – what I'm learning here. I love it."

Though a generation apart, Chambers understands McWhorter's situation. Chamber's mother was working at the Wrangler plant in Oneonta when it shut down about three years ago. Her mother, too, found herself unemployed with few skills and children to support. She ended up at Wallace State studying office technology. Her daughter, Alesha, joined her later.

"My mom was actually the one who told me about the co-op job," Alesha said. "She didn't put in for it because she thought she was too old but I'm going to tell her she needs to apply. It's so great here."

SAMD works with several college co-op programs, including Calhoun Community College, Alabama A&M University, Drake State Technical College and Wallace.

For Kevin Lovejoy, logistics management specialist co-op from Alabama A&M, getting hired in January was like a homecoming of sorts. Lovejoy interned at SAMD for the last two summers. "Good to be back," he said, with a broad smile.

Co-op employees have very flexible hours, working only when it fits with their schedule. They have the option of not working at all during a semester, working part time or working full time. They're paid only for the hours they work.

Their education experience varies as well. McWhorter has less than a year left to get her associate's degree while others, like Alesha, are just beginning their schooling.

"How long they have to go wasn't what we based our decision on when we hired them. It was based on their interviews," Brodersen said. "Once they graduate, we'll convert them into permanent employees – as long as the money's there."

That's good news for co-op employee Kristie Wilson, 22, a single mom of two children looking forward to the day when she can work only one job to support her family. "I didn't dream I'd get this kind of job," she said. Wilson is in her third semester at Wallace and works at the Arab Movie Gallery on the weekends to make ends meet. "The people here are excellent. They're so patient. This is a great place to work."

The co-op has been life changing for Rhiannon Comer, 22, who said getting this job was "an accident."

"I was out of high school four years and decided it was time to go to college," Comer said. "I was taking basic electives because I still didn't know what I wanted to do. When I found this job, I decided to tailor my education to it. I believe I'll have an awesome career, whether I'm hired here or not. The training and experience I'm receiving is exceptional. I'm very lucky."

Family counting days until Soldier's return

Emotions

continued from page 1

come home. I wouldn't allow myself to think he was actually going over there (to Iraq)."

Her denial was in full bloom during Will's four-week stay at Fort Benning. They talked on the phone once or twice a day. She even went for a weekend visit. Then the call came.

"We're ready to pull out. We leave in one hour," Will told her.

"I still couldn't believe it," Ellison said. "I was in serious denial."

It was a month before she heard from her husband again. Meanwhile, war broke out in Iraq. She admits she didn't cope well.

"And because I was stressed out all the time, I wasn't noticing what it was doing to my son. Will is a father to Jarome. I couldn't see his pain because I was struggling emotionally to get from day to day. Every news report was agonizing. When he finally did call and tell me he'd arrived in Kuwait, we weren't able to talk long. His unit was moving across Kuwait to the Iraqi border.

"When they arrived at Camp Uderia in Kuwait, he called again to let me know he was OK," Ellison said. "When he did call, he couldn't say a lot about what was going on. I'd ask him about the fighting and all he'd say is, 'We'll talk about it when I get home.' Phone calls were once a week for 10 minutes if I was lucky. Trying to e-mail was no good because the electricity went out so often there."

She and Will's sister in Houston (Texas) send him care packages alternating week to week. "I'd send him stuff to eat, canned food with pop tops, cereal bars. He loves those Funyuns. I sent him a six pack of bags of those and he said he got two and the rats got the other four. He said the rats there are about the size of small dogs. It's miserable hot in the summer and miserable cold in the winter. When it rains, there's inches of water in the tent. It's a mess."

Back home, Ellison soldiers on through the deployment, emotionally alternating between good days and bad days and tries to keep her home and family intact. The couple have seven sons between them, all but two are grown. Will has an 11-year-old son, Wesley Woods. Woods lives with his mother in Decatur. Ellison stays in touch with the family, passing along news about Will as she gets it.

Ellison has also met some new challenges.

"I wasn't sure what I was going to do when the plumbing messed up," she said. "The hot water knob broke off in my son's bathtub. Will used to do all that stuff. I didn't know where I was going to get help."

Home Depot came to the rescue through a special program created to help military families during times of deployment. Ellison heard about the program through the unit's group readiness meeting.

"They were wonderful," she said. "They came in, looked at the problem, figured out what I needed and then came back and put it in, free of charge," Ellison said. "And they didn't fix just that one thing. They looked around to make sure nothing else needed immediate attention. They even gave me the paint for the bed-



Courtesy Photo

DEPLOYED— Staff Sgt. Will Ellison's Alpha Company, 926th Engineering Battalion, Army Reserve unit left for Kuwait more than a year ago.

room. They were so great. I haven't had any problems since then."

Well, not until she heard Will's unit wasn't coming home in November.

"That was really hard for me but I think it was even worse for Jarome," Ellison said. "I guess I didn't realize how much until one day after Christmas break. I went to pick him up from school and told him we had to hurry because his dad was calling at 3:30."

For the first time Ellison saw the pain and anger in her son's eyes when he said, "Don't tell me to hurry. He says he'll call and he doesn't. He says he'll come home and he doesn't."

"I tried to explain that Will had to stand in line three or four hours with hundreds of people waiting to use the phone for a 10-minute call. Sometimes he just couldn't call."

But Will did manage to call that evening by around 8:30. "I gave him (Jarome) all of our phone time so Will could talk to him about how he was feeling. It was the middle of the night in Kuwait so they got to talk for about 30 minutes. Jarome was better after that."

"It really affected me when he left," Jarome said. "I was trying to take care of things around the house, you know, step up and do things. She was so stressed. Sometimes she'd take it out on me and I'd get mad but I also understood how she was feeling. I miss him, too."

Then the letter came in January telling Ellison that Will would not be coming home in February. This time it would be April.

"I knew Will was staying before he did," Ellison said. "I waited a week after I got the letter to tell Jarome."

"I wasn't surprised," Jarome said. "It bothered me, a lot. But I kind of prepared myself for it this time."

But when the day comes and his dad walks through the door, "I'm going to run up and hug him," he said. "Then I'm going to let them (mom and dad) spend some time together. Then me and him are going to do the regular things, even more than we did before he left. I've grown up a lot since he left. He said we'll do stuff my age."

Ellison has already made plans for Will's return. "We'll give his family that first weekend to say welcome home then I want him to myself for about a month. We're going to go on a trip, maybe to the beach. I'm ready for him to come home."

Only 59 days left.

Black history noted with art, music and portrayals

Curtain goes up Thursday on ninth annual festival

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE RELEASE

Black History Month, a tradition for seven decades, is celebrated each Febru-



Courtesy photo

GUEST ARTIST— Elaine Nelson will bring her paintings to the festival.

ary at Redstone Arsenal and at governmental facilities across the United States.

The purpose is to honor the contributions that African-Americans have made to all walks of American life and to recall important milestones in black history. The ninth annual African-American Festival of Art, Music and Portrayals will be pre-

sented 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium. The event is sponsored by the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles, Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office.

At this year's festival, Redstone will devote special attention to the Tuskegee Airmen, the renowned black World War II fighter pilots. In particular, this year's theme is based on the concept of "Each One, Value One." This will be illustrated in a movie video in which a Tuskegee airman is finally appreciated; and the strange meaning of being black in the dawning of World War II is demonstrated.

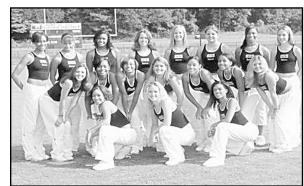
The emcee will be Kimberly Essex, news anchor for Huntsville's WAAF TV-48. The Birmingham native earned a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Montevallo. Her awards include the "Associated Press

Best News Anchor Award," "Best Specialized Reporter," "Best Newscast 1996-99," "Women Committed to Excellence Award," and the "University of Montevallo 21st Century Distinguished Alumni Award."

The award winning Varsity Dance Team from Sparkman High will perform at the festival. This nationally recognized dance team is coached by Charla Weaver. Members of the team get the opportunity to attend the UDA summer camp at

Auburn University and perform at various sports events. The team participated in the Madison County, NDA State, UDA State, and American All-Stars State Dance team competitions, as well as the U.S. Dance Team competition held in Orlando, Fla.

Artwork of Elaine Nelson should stimulate festival attendees. At age 22 the Denver native attended a community college in St. Louis and worked toward a degree in business. It was at this community college that Nelson decided to take a drawing class, thus unleashing her artistic talent. After Nelson completed her first collection of paintings, a fellow student made room for Nelson's collection to be placed, along with his, in a library exhibit. The exhibit received positive newspaper coverage and all of her paintings were sold that day, including her acclaimed "Kings of Africa." Her work has been dis-



Courtesy photo

WINNING TEAM— The Varsity Dance Team from Sparkman High will perform.

played in various art galleries and exhibits in St. Louis. Nelson has been recognized as a member of the St. Louis Art Guild; and her "Empty Vessel" painting has been accepted by the National Endowment for the Arts. She resides in Huntsville.

The festival will feature the "Tiny Soldiers," a group of youngsters from Terry Heights Elementary. Conceived by Janice Summerhill, a teacher at the school, Tiny Soldiers provides positive male role models to students from single parent families. The children are taught self-respect, self-discipline and self-confidence. The J.F. Drake State Technical College has provided two-year college scholarships to about 90 fifth-graders.

As another feature of this year's festival, music will be provided by "Integrity," a group of singers affiliated with Oakwood College.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Just another year

Priscilla Foreman-Nesbit, a badge checker at Sparkman building 5300, doesn't mind that her friends decorated her desk for her 50th birthday last Thursday. "I feel wonderful, I feel beautiful as a matter of fact," she says.

Re-enlistment marks the last of its kind

Ordnance Corps sergeant major attributes it to quirk of timing

By Spc. RYAN MCCLYMONT

Staff writer

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"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the president of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the uniform code of military justice. So help me God."

There comes a time in every Soldier's life when they must decide whether or not they are going to re-enlist. For Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Sullivan, the chief career management NCO for the electronic maintenance and calibration, ammunition, and explosive ordnance disposal career management fields at Redstone, the answer was simple.

Sullivan said the oath of re-enlistment Feb. 10 for his eighth and final time. This will not only let him finish a 30-year career in the military, but also make him one of the last three sergeants major and the last Ordnance Corps sergeant major to re-enlist in the Army.

How is that possible?

On Oct.1, 1998, the Army began the Indefinite Re-enlistment Program. The program requires that all regular Army career Soldiers in the rank of staff sergeant and above with more than 10 years of active service re-enlist for an unspecified term of service upon re-enlistment.

"The fact that I have to re-enlist again is really just a quirk of timing," Sullivan said. "I had to re-enlist in June of 1998 to attend the Sergeants Major Academy, which started in August. In October of that year is when they started the indefinite option for careerist, so I just missed the window, or I would have already re-enlisted."

The Indefinite Re-enlistment Program is meant to give career Soldiers the opportunity to manage their careers more effectively without the burden of renewing their contract every few years. Once on indefinite status, Soldiers will have the peace of mind that they will be able to serve until minimum retirement eligibility, or longer, consistent with the retention control point for their rank.

"The program eliminates a lot of unnecessary paperwork and redundancy," Master Sgt. Timothy Carlile, the 59th Ordnance Brigade career counselor, said. "Instead of re-enlisting every two years for 20 years, a Soldier re-enlists indefinitely. If a Soldier has already put in 10 years and is thinking about re-enlisting, that puts them more than halfway to retirement."

When Soldiers reach the 10-year point they can no longer make a two- to six-year commitment; the decision to re-enlist is for an indefinite period of time. As a result, some Soldiers in this position are not willing to re-enlist indefinitely, effectively taking them out to retirement.



Photo by Spc. Ryan McClymont

FINAL RE-UP— Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Sullivan says the oath of re-enlistment for his eighth and final time to Col. Joyce Napier, commander of the 59th Ordnance Brigade, making him the last Ordnance Corps sergeant major to re-enlist in the Army.

"We are having a difficult time getting our senior NCOs to re-enlist and these Soldiers have a very important role in the Army's transformation, because we are becoming a smaller, more lethal Army," Carlile said. "By retaining them we save a valuable resource to train this new Army and when we lose our senior NCOs, we lose a wealth of experience."

"At a time when our nation is at war, with so many young Soldiers in harm's way, now is not the time to leave the Army," Sullivan said. "It's important for the younger Soldiers to see some of us older Soldiers deciding to stay. I could easily retire now, but I just want to contribute what I can and finish a 30-year career."

"Sgt. Maj. Sullivan's re-enlistment is an affirmation to service to this country," retired Maj. Rob Robinson, senior military personnel management specialist, said. "When we talk about warrior ethos, it truly means a commitment to serve above all else. It means you sacrifice. Sometimes you sacrifice what is in your family's best interest and your own best interest, in the interest of the Army and your fellow Soldiers."

Sullivan is an example of a senior NCO who is making an important contribution to the Army at a time when it is needed most. As a career management NCO he plays a key role in the training, assignments and education of Soldiers that fall under the military occupational specialty that he manages.

"We are the advocate for the MOSs in those career management fields and by extension for the Soldiers," Sullivan said. "We basically watch over them. If there is something going on in the Army that is going to impact them, we weigh in on it and make recommendations.

"In this position I have six NCOs who are subordinate to me, but between the seven of us we're looking out for 15,000 Soldiers in the two career fields that we manage," he said. "My biggest challenge right now is maintaining viable career progression as we get smaller and as maintenance gets consolidated."

When asked about the importance of being the last Ordnance Corps sergeant

See Sullivan on page 17

for kids

Come on and get a free ride to space



Photo by Kim Maso

LEARNING THE ROPES— U.S. Space & Rocket Center scholarship manager Marcia Lindstrom, right, shows ACS Scholarship Committee co-chairmen Phyllis Montgomery, left, and Susan Carr a work station in the International Space Station Module.

Space Camp scholarships offered for 20th year

By KIM MASON

Staff writer

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Killian McGroary has had two space missions, one to Mars, as a payload spe-

cialist and in ground control. McGroary was only 12 at the time.

Space Camp gave her that opportunity at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center.

"Things go wrong on purpose during the mission. We were behind schedule, but were able to bring it together to win best mission," she said. "We won the award because of teamwork."

Each year the Army Community Service Volunteer Program Space Camp Scholarship Committee offers

youngsters like McGroary a free opportunity to attend Space Camp, Space Acade-

my or Aviation Challenge.

Marcia Lindstrom, U.S. Space & Rocket Center scholarship manager, said the committee offers a great benefit to local kids. "There are two sponsors like ACS, but ACS offers only to local military dependents," she said. "If the ACS didn't sponsor these children, odds would not be in their favor. They would be competing against 500 other children for scholar-

ships.

The Space Camp Scholarship Program is funded through Association of the U.S. Army, Air Defense Artillery Association, First Command, Enlisted Spouses Club, Officer and Civilian Women's Club, American Legion Auxiliary Post 237 and Systems Studies and Simulations Inc. This is the program's 20th year.

Mission essentials

Who: Dependents of active duty and retired military and/or dependents of Reserve or National Guard who have been on active duty during the 12 months before March 12. Must live within a 50-mile radius of Redstone Arsenal. Grades 4-9 (2003-04 school year). "C" average or higher.

What: One week residence camp — Space Camp (grades 4-6), Space Academy (grades 7-8) and Aviation Challenge (grades 7-9).

When: June 5-11.

Where:U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville.

"All the contributors are such wonderful caring people," Susan Carr, Space Camp Committee co-chairman, said. "They don't just give us the money and then run away. They really care about the program and the children. We also could not do this without the help of the staff and volunteers at ACS."

Scholarship applications will be available starting Feb. 23 at the Post Exchange, Army Community Service building 3338 and local schools. Applications must be

Aviation careers take off through Civil Air Patrol

Young cadets introduced to aerospace education

CIVIL AIR PATROL RELEASE

MERIDIANVILLE — Cadet Senior Airman Chester Kraft took his first two power flight orientation rides Feb. 1 with the Redstone Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol.

Squadron commander Lt. Col. Larry Becker was pilot and lecturer. The first flight introduced Kraft to the safety processes and procedures to conducting a flight. During the second flight, he was introduced to the basic flight maneuvers.

"He has a natural talent for flight," Becker said afterward.

Kraft has been a member of Redstone Composite Squadron since June 2003. He is a home schooled 10th-grader. His aspiration is to attend the Air Force Academy. The orientation rides introduce cadets to the wonders and discipline of aviation. This is part of the aerospace education that CAP provides young people in its cadet program. Many military pilots started out in their careers as CAP cadets.

Redstone Composite Squadron is based at the Redstone Army Airfield. Senior members meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 5 p.m. at CAP building 4828 G1. The cadets meet each Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. For more information, call 1st Lt. Dani Richard 726-2076.

Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the Air Force. It is a civilian, volunteer, non-profit, service organization. The unpaid members perform more than 95 percent of inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center. Volunteers also take a leading role in aerospace education and conduct one of America's finest youth programs through CAP cadet programs.



Photo by 1st Lt. Dani Richar

SHORT FLIGHT— Redstone Composite Squadron commander Lt. Col. Larry Becker instructs Cadet Senior Airman Chester Kraft.

complete with a copy of the child's military identification card and an essay by noon March 12. The essay subject is "Why I want to attend Space Camp, Space Academy, or Aviation Challenge."

One of the main reasons McGroary wanted to attend Space Camp was to meet kids from across the nation. She in fact did and didn't have to go far to do so. "There were kids from all over, only two of us were from Huntsville," she said. "Every night we got to call our parents. Everyone else had to use a phone card."

The scholarship is for youngsters within a 50-mile radius of Redstone who are dependents of active duty or retired military. Also eligible this year are dependents of Guard or Reserve members who served on active duty during the 12 months before March 12.

Lindstrom knows firsthand how tough moving can be for a military family. "This is a great reward for these kids who are being moved all over the world and are making good grades," she said. "It is a real morale booster."

Youngsters in grades four through six apply to Space Camp, grades seven or eight apply to Space Academy and grades seven through nine apply to Aviation Challenge. All must have a "C" average or higher. Previous recipients of the scholar-ship may not apply again.

The committee will award 14 scholar-ships valued at nearly \$1,000 each. All applicants will be notified by April 30 if they received the scholarship or not. Recipients will be honored at a ceremony June 2 where they will read their essays.

McGroary, now a seventh-grader, encourages anyone interested to apply. "Of course I would recommend it. It was very interesting and I enjoyed the teamwork. I only wish I could apply again for the scholarship," she said.

For more information about the Space Camp Scholarship Program, call Army Community Service at 876-5397.

Club members exhibit art to benefit community

Annual art auction on palette Feb. 28

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

The Officers and Civilian Women's Club has been framed. Well actually, the art for the club's 32nd annual Art Exhibition and Auction has been framed.

Selected pieces from the Perry Berns Gallery of Dallas have been framed, matted and are on their way for the OCWC's biggest fund-raising event of the year Feb. 28 at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Proceeds from the evening benefit the OCWC Welfare Fund, which strives to provide aid to worthy organizations and groups in the community.

"The money goes back into the community through different programs," Donna Williams, first vice president of the club, said. "For example, we've supplied scholarships for children for Space Camp and also provided money for the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra."

Art auction chairman Natalie Taylor looks forward to this year's auction. "It's exciting. It gets your heart racing and your blood pumping," she said of the auction. "Last year was my first time at the art auction and I thought it wouldn't be for me because I wasn't sure if the prices would be too high. But they went from \$75 up to \$2,000. They're oil paintings, already framed and ready to go up on the wall. When you walk out of here you have a beautiful piece of art that's ready to go on your living room wall or wherever you put it."

Five door prize drawings will be held at the event, with a special drawing for those who purchased their tickets before the event. Specially chosen art selections will be given as prizes for the drawings, one of which is by famed artist Wooster Scott.

"It's a great event," Kathleen Riester, ticket chairman, said. "It's my first year. I attended the same concept event at a different post years ago and it's just a lot of fun."

The exhibition will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the auction to follow at 7. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and dessert will be served. A cash bar will also be open. The dining room will offer a buffet dinner beginning at 5. For the dinner, reservations are required.



Photo by Kelley Lar

SMALL DETAILS— Kathleen Riester points out a few details of Wooster Scott's painting "Foxy Gives 'Em The Slip" to Natalie Taylor, left, JoAnne Courtemanche and Donna Williams.

"You can come and have dinner, view the art and then come to the auction," Taylor said. "You can make it a wonderful evening."

Tickets for the exhibition and

auction are \$10. They are on sale now and will also be sold at the door. For more information about the exhibit and auction, call Taylor or Riester at Army Community Service 876-5397. For more information or reservations for the buffet dinner, call the Officers and Civilians Club at 830-2582.

Just do it at the fitness centers

Stay young at heart by working out

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor skip.yaughn@redstone.army.mil

They're becoming as common to the workplace as badges and briefcases. Some people keep them under their desks.

They're gym bags.

Many people are taking advantage of the free opportunity to work out at the four fitness centers on post. Just try finding a locker at the Sparkman Fitness Center at lunchtime and you'll see.

It's like the famous line from the movie "Field of Dreams": If you build a fitness center, they will come. And Redstone officials – including post commander Brig. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, who works out early mornings at Sparkman — want you there to stay healthy.

"The more people that use it, we justify the need," Gaylene Wilson, the Redstone sports and fitness director, said.

There have been some changes lately – including Wilson assuming her new job last week. Beginning Feb. 23, the health promotion program will expand to the Sparkman facility and the Redstone Fitness Center. This voluntary program, already offered at the Wellness Center, enables you to get a health screening at Fox Army Health Center. Participants come into the fitness center, pick up their paperwork and are sent to Fox for their blood work.

The checkup includes screening for cholesterol, triglycerides and glucose. The results are sent back to the fitness center where the staff will discuss the findings with the participants and schedule them for a personal training session. Supervisors can authorize their workers three hours per week of duty time to participate in the health promotion program for six months. For more information on this "Campaign Life" health promotion program, call the Wellness Center at 955-6844/7508, the Sparkman Fitness Center at 313-6091/6096 or the Redstone Fitness Center at 313-1201/1202.

Another recent change is the card swipe rather than sign-in system. Rec Trac began in November at Pagano Gym, in December at Redstone Fitness Center and last week at Sparkman.

"Rec Trac is going to be our new signin system basically," Wilson said. "You'll be able to use your CAC (Common Access) card or military ID card to swipe in rather than sign in. It keeps track of our usage; it's Department of Army-wide. The benefit for the members is it makes it much easier to sign in as well. The only thing is you've got to remember to bring in your ID."

Morale Welfare and Recreation offers a recreation and fitness achievement program which enables ages 6 and older to document their activities for participation awards. "It's a program designed to encourage people to participate in recreation and fitness programs that they enjoy doing," Wilson said. For information go to the web site located at www.red-stonemwr.com.

The fitness facilities are open to active duty and retired military and their dependents; Reserve, National Guard and their dependents; Defense Department employees and their dependents; and employees of other federal agencies. The age requirement for dependent children is 18-23 at the Sparkman fitness and Wellness Center, and 16-23 at Pagano Gym and Redstone fitness. Defense Department dependents,

DoD retirees and contractors must have an MWR patron card, a badge that gives them unescorted access to the post. For information call the MWR office at 830-9175

"There are just a lot of benefits to exercise," Wilson said. "You're healthier, live longer. As you get older you need to do weight bearing exercises to increase bone density. It can be a social activity and a stress reliever. Where else can you go to use fitness facilities at no cost? We have four facilities. Why not?"

She knows it gets overcrowded at the Sparkman facility at lunchtime. To avoid the crowd, she suggests working out at slower times like 8-10:30 a.m. or 1-3 p.m., trying one of the other gyms or using the aerobic program at 11:15 a.m. and noon Monday through Friday. But by all means, just do it, she said.

It's a typical weekday afternoon at the Sparkman facility. Ray Trzeciak, 63, a management analyst at Resource Management Directorate, is reading a magazine while walking on a treadmill.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

I'M WALKING— Management analyst Ray Trzeciak reads while using a treadmill at Sparkman Fitness Center.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

— Gavlene Wilson

SPORTS ADVOCATE— Gaylene Wilson is the Redstone sports and fitness director.

"Usually I try to make it (to the fitness center) every day," he said. "It's topnotch. They've got all the machines in good working order. They bring in new machines when the old ones wear out. And they have all the aerobics, weight training, anything you want here.

"Everything's in good repair and I highly recommend it. It keeps you young."

Doug Williams, a design engineer with Boeing, is getting dressed after his threetimes-a-week workout. He has occasionally used the Wellness Center but usually uses the Sparkman facility.

"I think it's fantastic," he said. "For the money that I pay per month (as an MWR patron) and considering the equipment here, it's a steal of a deal. And the equipment's always kept in good shape."

Sports and fitness director Wilson, a Texas native who grew up in Louisiana, has 14 years of government service, all with morale welfare and recreation. She has a staff of seven recreation specialists, 17 recreation assistants and nine aerobic instructors.

Here are the fitness facilities and their hours:

- Wellness Center, building 4460 on Digney Road, open 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Sparkman Fitness Center, building 5302, open 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Redstone Fitness Center, building 3705 on Aerobee Road, open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. holidays.
- Pagano Gym, on Honest John Road, open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. The phone number is 876-6701/2943; or call Wilson at 842-2574.

Regular exercise adds spice to healthy recipe

Lower your chances of heart disease

By TAMIRIZ CENTENO

Community health nurse

The healthy heart recipe contains good nutrition, exercise, relaxation, and effective management of chronic conditions.

One of the best ways to help keep your heart healthy is to eat a low-fat, well-balanced diet that includes fresh fruits, vegetables and whole grains daily. Improving your diet doesn't have to be a big deal you can improve your nutrition in small, comfortable steps. Try new low-fat versions of foods you enjoy — there are cheeses, snack chips, even ice creams that taste surprisingly like the fattier versions that inspired them.



Don't suddenly cut out fatty foods that you love. Instead, try to gradually cut down on high-fat foods, which will minimize cravings and binging. Read nutrition labels on packaged foods before you buy them. For example, you'll discover that tub and squeeze bottle margarines have significantly less saturated and trans fat than margarine in sticks. Saturated fat and trans fats in particular raise cholesterol levels in the blood. Saturated fat is listed under "Total Fat" on the food label. Many nutrition labels do not list harmful trans fats on the Nutrition Facts panel. Look under the ingredient list and if it includes the words "shortening," "partially hydrogenated vegetable oil" or "hydrogenated vegetable oil," the food contains trans fat.

Not all fats are harmful. There are "good fats" out there that may actually prevent heart disease and may lower cholesterol. Omega-3 fatty acids from coldwater fish such as salmon, tuna, and sardines, as well as the fats in walnuts, flaxseed, and soy products have been shown to have a protective effect on the cardiovascular system. Polyunsaturated and monounsaturated fats (such as olive oil, canola oil, soybean oil and corn oil) also have good effects. Work with your doctor to customize a plan that fits your personal lifestyle. Don't just try a diet from a book. If it's your own plan, you're more likely to stick with it.

Exercise

Your heart is a muscle and muscles need exercise to work their best. There are some very simple things you can add to your daily life to help keep your heart pumping strong. You will feel better about yourself just knowing you're making the effort. Use the stairs instead of the elevator. Park a little farther from your destination and walk the extra distance. Take your dog for an extra walk every day.

Don't have a dog? Consider getting one. Studies show that pet owners live longer. Join a group that will make exercise become more social: a tennis club or a hiking group, for example.

Relaxation

You'll be healthier, and you'll feel better, if you can increase the amount of time you feel relaxed and decrease the amount of time you feel stressed. Emotional stress can lead to overeating, smoking and other behaviors that are detrimental to heart

Here are a few ideas to help you relax, both in times of stress and every day. Take a personal "timeout"; spend a few minutes each day sitting quietly, breathing deeply and thinking of a peaceful image. Exercise regularly. Releasing ten-

sion that's built up in your body can be surprisingly relaxing. Limit your intake of beverages that contain caffeine (coffee, tea, soft drinks). They can heighten feelings of anxiety. Stay away from events that frustrate you, like rush hour traffic, for instance. Wait a

half hour if you can and do something productive with the time. You'll feel relaxed and accomplished. Take the stress out of commuting by listening to relaxing music or a book on tape to take your mind off the day's hassles — and the tension of

Chronic conditions, such as heart disease and diabetes, require a big effort by the individual to change the risk factors that can make these conditions worse. People with diabetes must make many lifestyle adjustments such as changing the way they eat, being more physically active, taking medicines, measuring blood sugar throughout the day, getting regular checkups, and lab tests. One way to help someone with diabetes make lifestyle changes and control their diabetes is to go to a diabetes self-management training

A limited number of health-related behaviors — most notably tobacco use, lack of physical activity, and poor nutrition — are responsible for chronic heart disease. These risk factors should be minimized to promote a heart-healthy lifestyle. Heart disease (principally high blood pressure, coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, and stroke) is the leading cause of death among both men and women, and across all racial and ethnic groups. In any case, managing chronic conditions is best carried out under the supervision of your doctor.

More than 64 million Americans live with some form of cardiovascular disease, according to the American Heart Association. The important thing is to follow a sensible, realistic plan that will gradually lower your chances of developing heart disease, or help you control it.

For more information about this topic, visit the American Heart Association's web site at www.americanheart.org.

or lose

HHC 59th slows tempo for big win over MEDDAC

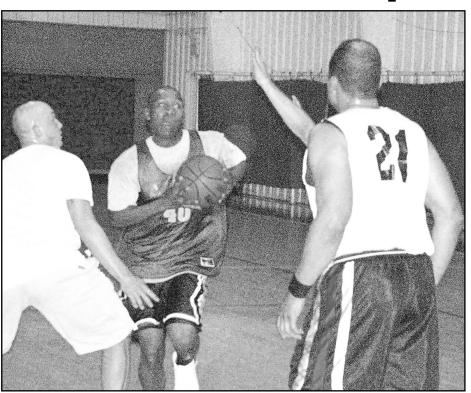


Photo by Skip Vaughn

WOLFPACK ATTACK— Charlie Company's Gary Garrett (40) drives to the basket against AMCOM during the top-ranked Wolfpack's 65-55 win Jan. 21.

'Raise up' team looks ahead to postseason tournament

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Trailing by 11 points at halftime, HHC 59th needed a boost against MEDDAC.

The lift came when two of the 59th's usual starters, Laevrmonde Watts and William Lewis, arrived at Pagano Gym. They entered the game midway through the second half.

The 59th, ranked No. 4 by the *Redstone Rocket*, cut the pace and beat second-ranked MEDDAC 65-56 on Feb. 9.

"We made them play our game instead of us playing their game," 59th shooting guard Delbert Francis said. "We slowed down the tempo because they were getting a lot of breakaway layups. So we slowed that down."

Errol Byrd led the way with a gamehigh 22 points for the "Raise up" bunch which trailed 38-27 at halftime. Michael Alsbrook had 17 and Francis added 16. Rounding out the scoring were Watts and Darius Blackwell with four apiece and Lee Diaz with two.

"Perseverance and we had two players return (from military tasks)," backup guard Mark Lewis said of the keys to the win. "They brought some fresh pair of legs in. Some of the team was tired; they brought some energy in. Just their presence itself helped us."

The usual starters for 59th (8-5) include Francis, forward Byrd, point guard William Lewis, power forward Watts and center Alsbrook. The reserves include Mark Lewis and shooting guards Blackwell and Diaz.

This could be a dangerous team as the double-elimination, postseason tournament gets under way Feb. 23 at Pagano Gym

Gym.

"I think we have the potential to go all the way and win the whole thing, based on the competition I've seen," Francis said. "I think the two toughest companies are (top-ranked) Charlie Company and MEDDAC, they're a very capable team. But I think we have the capability of winning it all."

MEDDAC (8-3) shooting guard LeRoy Howard scored 19 points, Ray Lee had 16, Detrick Bush had 15, De'juan Steen four and Frederick McCallum two.

Top-ranked Charlie (10-2) suffered a setback when 6-foot-8 center Timothy Latour hurt his left ankle in the Wolfpack's 61-50 loss to the Marines on Thursday night.

The *Rocket's* latest rankings have Charlie at No. 1, MEDDAC at No. 2, NCO Academy at No. 3, HHC 59th at No. 4 and Marines at No. 5.

The actual standings were: Eastern Conference – NCO Academy (9-2), Delta (5-6), Bravo (4-7) and 2117th (2-10). Western Conference – Charlie (10-2), MEDDAC (8-3), HHC 59th (8-5), Marines (6-6) and AMCOM (4-8).

Here are last week's results:

- Feb. 9 Delta won by forfeit over 2117th, HHC 59th d. MEDDAC 65-56 and Charlie d. AMCOM 39-33.
- Feb. 10 NCO Academy d. Delta 60-41, HHC 59th d. Marines 62-51 and MEDDAC d. 2117th 49-42.
- Feb. 11 Charlie d. HHC 59th 64-59, Marines d. AMCOM 39-35 and NCO Academy d. Brayo 38-30.
- Feb. 12 NCO Academy d. 2117th 62-34, Marines d. Charlie 61-50 and MEDDAC won by forfeit over AMCOM.



Courtesy pho

Top shooter

Drill Sgt. Grant Scott and his son Angelo, 5, show the turkey he won with the winning shot at the turkey shoot Jan. 31. For information about the Morale Welfare and Recreation programs, go to the web site at www.redstonemwr.com.

31-mile trail run 'good, clean, mud-covered fun'

Co-workers complete Mountain Mist 50K

By PAM ROGERS

For the Rocket

Imagine running in a race for which marathons are considered training and the 31-mile (50-kilometer) course runs over boulders, through running water and up the sides of cliffs. Bumps and bruises are expected, and a concussion is a possibility. Other obstacles can include snow, ice and mud so deep it sucks runners' shoes off their feet.

These challenges are all there in the annual Mountain Mist Trail Run, sponsored by Dink Taylor and the Huntsville Track Club in late January every year on Monte Sano. And for a group of workers from the Theater High Altitude Area Defense project office and the PEO Air, Space and Missile Defense, it's the rugged trail that invites them to the fun.

Carlos Kingston, logistics director in the THAAD project office, is a five-time Mountain Mist finisher and was well trained for the event. He just finished the Rocket City Marathon a month prior but sustained a minor injury and opted out this year.

Brent Montgomery, an engineer for THAAD, and six-time finisher has run Mountain Mist during flash flood warnings, in freezing temperatures, and has forded knee-deep mountain streams.

"There's always mud someplace on the course," he said, adding "There are trees to duck under or climb over, rocks everywhere. I've chipped a tooth, cracked a finger and hit several trees with my head.

Just good, clean, mud-covered fun."

Maj. Mike Sloane of THAAD, content with his 5- and 10-mile runs and occasional marathons wasn't even seriously considering the race until his wife, Debbie, asked him to run with her.

"She felt like she hadn't been challenging herself enough with 10- and 20-mile runs and asked if I would run this race with her because she heard it was great, the hardest in Alabama, and then offered me to either run it or serve as her water boy," he said. After training for a few weeks, he accepted her offer and realized he would have to begin running the trails in preparation for the event.

Trail running offers a special challenge that's all about pushing your body past what you think it can endure, according to Sloane. These runners train several days during the week, run marathons for fun, and then get serious by mapping out practice runs through the woods. The off-road nature trails are invigorating.

"I just got tired of running 20 miles on asphalt," he said.

For Nathan Graham of the PEO ASMD, it's the total challenge of the rugged course that holds his attention. To train for Mountain Mist, he averages 45 miles a week, completing his long trail runs on weekends. Graham finished the course in just over five hours.

"It's brutal, painful fun," Sloane said.
"It's amazing how you can force your body to do something like that. I thought I would break something."

All four finished the race this year, and while nobody's talking much about record times, Mike and Debbie Sloane are already training for their next 55K trail race in Birmingham in March.



Courtesy photo

PHOTO FINISH— Mountain Mist 50K finishers include from left Maj. Mike Sloane, his wife Debbie and Brent Montgomery.



Army file photo

Top finisher

Joe Nemecheck, driving the No. 1 U.S. Army car, finished sixth in the Daytona 500. The race was won by Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Ordnance Corps sergeant major re-enlists

Sulliyan

continued from page 11

major to re-enlist in the Army, Sullivan played down his own role and simply

said, "If you re-enlist one time, then you might as well stay. That's the way I look at it. But whether you serve three years or 30, you have served your country, you've done more than most, and you have everything to be proud of."



Duathlon competition

The 3D Duathlon – a 5K run, 25K bike, 5K run – is 9 a.m. March 13 at Hampton Cove. It's sponsored by 3D Research Corporation to benefit the Huntsville Hospital Foundation. For more information, call 464-9494.

Youth team benefit

After finishing its fall season with a 17-1 record, ranked No. 1 in the state, No. 2 in the South and No. 7 in the nation, the North Alabama Vipers 9-and-under baseball team is preparing for its spring baseball season and a trip to the 9U USSSA World Series in St. Louis. SMDC-TC worker Mike Madewell has a son, Ryan, on the team. It plans to play 60-70 games this spring in a dozen tournaments throughout Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi and Missouri. For more information on its fall season and to obtain a tentative spring baseball schedule, you can visit http://www.eteams.com/navipers9u/. To help the team raise money for this year, the Huntsville Applebee's, 3028 Memorial Parkway Southwest, will provide a pancake breakfast Feb. 28 from 7-10 a.m. Tickets are \$5 and the menu will consist of pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee and orange juice. For information on obtaining an advance ticket, call Madewell 955-2312 (work) or 461-6975 (home). You may also purchase a ticket at the door that morning.

Endurance march

The 15th annual Bataan Memorial Death March, a 26.2-mile trek through the desert terrain of White Sands Missile Range, N.M., is March 21. For more information, call Capt. Timothy Stewart (505) 678-1507.

Women's golf association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Executive Women's Golf Association will hold its fourth annual Tee-Off, March 11 from 6-8 p.m. at the Huntsville Country Club. Scheduled speaker is Cindy Parrish from The Golf Professionals golf shop. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Reservations are required. For more information about EWGA, call 828-8005 or log on to www.ewgahuntsville.com.

Redstone golf group

The Redstone Arsenal Ladies Golf Asso-

ciation is ready to begin the 2004 season with a welcoming coffee March 3 at 9 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Coffee and rolls will be served. There is no charge. All women age 17 and over who meet the eligibility requirements for use of the Redstone Golf Course are invited.

Madison soccer

The Madison Soccer Club Shockers is forming teams for spring play in the North Alabama Soccer League. Practices will begin in February and games will begin in March. "Specifically, we are seeking girls ages 7-9 with a strong desire to play soccer," a prepared release said. For more information, call Jo Countess (256) 771-0530.

Baseball bus trip

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring a baseball bus trip to see the St. Louis Cardinals and the Atlanta Braves in their only regular season series in Atlanta. This three-day trip will leave Redstone Aug. 13 at 11 a.m. and return Aug. 15 about 7 p.m. Cost is \$190 per person based on double occupancy. This includes two nights at the Embassy Suites Galleria, bus fare, game tickets for that Friday night and Saturday game, snacks and beverages on the bus. For reservations call Charlie Urban 955-7662. A \$100 per person deposit is due by April 1 to hold your reservation. Space is limited so do not delay.

Challenger bingo

Challenger Activity Center bingo introduces "Blazing Quarters Bingo." New Blazing Quarter bingo play is a different program from its regular bingo operations, which will continue unchanged. Current start time for the new program will be Friday at 10:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 6 p.m. For more information, call 837-0750.

Youth baseball

The Redstone Arsenal Youth Sports Baseball/Softball Leagues will be played the last week of April through June. Registration continues through March 5. Opening ceremonies are April 23 at Joe Davis Stadium. Redstone CYS League play will be held on the RSA Little League Fields on Goss Road. Cost is \$35 for baseball or softball and is open children ages 5-12 whose parents or guardians are active duty, retired military, Guard, Reserve, DoD, NASA, and RSA contractors'

dependents. You may register at Child and Youth Services central registration, building 1500 Weeden Mountain Road. Central registration fee is \$18 per child or \$40 per family per year if not already registered. A current physical and a copy of the child's birth certificate are required for registration. For more information, call 876-3704 or 313-3699.



Army education series

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army will hold the first of its new biannual Education Series meetings Thursday. Retired Lt. Gen. Theodore Stroup will provide an analysis of the fiscal '05 Army budget, and he will make two identical presentations to the membership of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter at the Lockheed-Martin Auditorium at 4800 Bradford Drive. The first presentation is from 9-11 a.m., and the second is 1-3 p.m. Attendance is free to chapter members. Non-members may attend by joining AUSA for \$33 for a one-year membership. Attendance at both presentations is on a space-available basis, so reservations should be made early. For reservations and AUSA membership, call Martha Townsend of Raytheon Company 542-5100.

Toastmasters

Toastmasters can help improve your communication and leadership skills by conducting meetings, giving prepared speeches or briefings, giving impromptu speeches and offering constructive evaluations. This is an approved government training opportunity. A form DD-1556 is all you need to sign up to start earning your Continuous Learning Points. To find a club near you, go to http://www.toastmasters.org/find/. If you have trouble contacting a particular club, contact Chad Daly at Chad.Daly@smdc.army.mil or Toastmasters International at tminfo@toastmasters.org.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 in the Twickenham Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jean Rose 313-1659.

Officers association

Huntsville Chapter of the Military Offi-

cers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon Feb. 25 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Melinda Gorham, editor of *The Huntsville Times*. All active, retired and former officers; their spouses and widows, are invited. The association's informal monthly breakfast is Feb. 28 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Café, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Worldwide logistics workshop

Register now for the Logistics Support Activity Worldwide Logistics Training Workshop, March 8-12 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The keynote speaker is Maj. Gen. Mitchell Stevenson, deputy chief of staff for logistics and operations at Army Materiel Command, Fort Belvoir, Va. He is scheduled to speak March 8 at 11:30 a.m. Additionally, this year's event includes presentations by Department of Army for Logistics, Combined Arms Support Command, Forces Command, Army Materiel Command for Operations, National Guard Bureau, Defense Logistics Agency, and Program Executive Office for Enterprise Integration Systems. For more information, call 313-6698.

Air defenders

Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association will have its quarterly general membership luncheon March 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Col. John Vaughn, project manager for Lower Tier Project Office. Cost is \$11 for members and \$14 for non-members. Applications for membership will be accepted at the door. For more information, contact the association secretary at michael.i.howell@ngc.com.

General services expo

General Services Administration's Southeast Sunbelt Region invites you to Orlando, Fla., May 11-13 to experience Expo 2004. Admission is free to all civilian and military personnel. Attend more than 250 hours of professional procurement-oriented training, with CEU credit. Visit more than 700 commercial partners, across 300,000 square feet, exhibiting their products and services — all available through GSA schedules. GSA is offering free

meeting rooms to federal activities as part of the expo May 10, 11 and 13. 2004. For details check the web site http://expo.gsa.gov or call 1-888-272-5565. To schedule a meeting, contact Barbara Petersen at Barbara.Petersen@gsa.gov.

Resource manager institute

The American Society of Military Comptrollers invites the AMCOM community to the 2004 Mini-Professional Development Institute Seminar titled "Designing your Destiny," March 31 and April 1 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The seminar leader is Lee Milteer, president of Lee Milteer Inc., career development strategists. Participants will attend one day of training. Bus transportation to and from lunch at Trinity Methodist Center will be provided from the auditorium. The luncheon program will be a workshop on dressing for success and promote the theme "Design Your Tomorrow." Some spring fashions for unisex will be presented by Connie Broadway, visual manager for Dillard's. You do not have to be a member of ASMC or work in the comptroller field in order to attend. The cost of the seminar is \$65 for ASMC members and \$75 for non-members. Payment will be by IMPAC government purchase credit card only. Reserve a space by having a government purchase cardholder call either Linda Caswell 955-0687, Betty Jones 955-0688 or fax 955-8332.

Workers compensation training

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center's Workers' Compensation Office, in conjunction with the Department of Defense, Civilian Personnel Management Service, will offer training March 23 in the Diane Campbell Recreation Center to all Team Redstone managers, supervisors and organizational chiefs. Jeff Karl of DoD's Civilian Personnel Management Service in Jacksonville, Fla., will conduct sessions 9-11 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. "The purpose of this training is to make sure that managers understand their roles and responsibilities under the Federal Employment Compensation Act, OWCP's timeliness submission requirements, and the importance of reducing workers' compensation costs," a prepared release said.

Federally employed women

North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will meet Thursday at 11:15 a.m. in the Regimental Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. Don Dixon, director of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, is to speak on the Resumix referral system. To reserve a seat, contact Demetria Cruz at Demetria.cruz@hnd01.usace.army.mil.

Parents committee

The Parent Advisory Committee will meet Feb. 24 at 11 a.m. in the Redstone Room at Challenger Activity Center, building 1500. PAC gives bonus parent points, updated information and an open forum. For information call 876-7952.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit

A local Army Reserve detachment doi weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal looking for prior active duty Soldiers w want to return to duty, or Soldiers w wish to transfer from other Reser /National Guard units with a specialty 74B information systems operators, a 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, unit will consider reclassification/waiv action to 74B if you can document w resume your Civilian Acquired Skills include your education/experience in following computer skills: data base ma agement, PC programming language networking/systems administration a telecommunications skills. Minimum of secret clearance is required. And you mu possess the character and personal quali cations to pass a SBI Investigation che to obtain a top secret clearance required the specialty. Specialties 74C and 74F now authorized to convert to 74B as we For MOS 75B/H, you must be MOS prior service or transfer from another ur For information call Charles Vartan 8' 0604 (work) or 883-8891 (home).

Civilian deployment

Civilian employées are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by

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AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Gleria Edwards 313-3867. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Business scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$1,000 annual scholarship awards to a local high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is March 31. For more information, call Jackie Kenner 876-8131.

Closings or delays

If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune in to any of the following stations for the most current information: radio – WAHR, 99.1FM; WDRM, 102FM; WEKR, 1240AM; WEUP, 1600 AM; WGSV, 1270AM; WJAB, 90.9FM; WLRH, 89.3FM; WRAB, 1380AM; WRSA, 97FM; WTKI, 1450AM; WVNN, 770AM; WWIC, 1050AM; WZYP, 104.3FM; television — WAAY (Channel 31); WAFF (Channel 48); WHNT (Channel 19). Three additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures. You can call 955-8445 to hear a recorded announcement or you can click the button for weather information on either the Team Redstone Internet site located at (www.redstone.army.mil) or the AMCOM Portal Intranet site (https://intranet3.redstone.army.mil:7443/pls/aprtl/aprtl_amcom_site.amcom_page).

Aerospace scholarship

The Air Force Association, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will present a \$1,000 scholarship to an Air Force Junior ROTC cadet, cadet in the Civil Air Patrol, dependent of active duty or retired Air Force personnel, dependent of Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve personnel, or dependent of an active duty member of another service (Army, Navy, or Marine Corps). Applicants must pursue a full course load toward an aerospace technology associate degree at Calhoun Community College. This scholarship will be for the 2004-05 school year and will be broken into \$500 awards to the school for each semester attended. Candidates may apply until May 1. For more information, call Terry Roop (256) 230-0396 after 6 p.m. or e-mail at TLRoop@charter.net.

Resource manager scholarships

The American Society of Military Comptrollers announces its annual scholarship program for ASMC members and their immediate families. The national scholarship is open only to high school seniors, but the local scholarship is also open to undergraduates and those working on graduate programs. The application can

be found at http://www.asmconline.org. Deadline is March 1; and applications may be mailed to Jan Howard, PEO, Air, Space and Missile Defense, Attn: SFAE-AMD-BD-SF, P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801. Applications may also be faxed to 313-3446 or e-mailed to Jan.Howard@amd.army.mil. For more information, call Howard 313-3447.

Engineers week banquet

The annual National Engineers Week award banquet is Feb. 26 at the Von Braun Center North Hall. Cocktails and registration begin at 6 p.m., and dinner at 7. Tickets are \$25 with advanced reservations or \$38 after Feb. 18. For more information, call the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies 882-1227.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief is accepting scholarship applications for dependent children of active duty and retired Soldiers for the 2004-05 school year. Scholarship applications can be found at the AER web site www.aerhq.org. For more information, call Kristi Foster of Army Community Service 876-5397.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is open until April 15 in building 3489 at the corner of Ajax Road and Zeus Road. It provides free tax preparation and electronic filing services to active duty and retired military and their dependents. The center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment only, and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7 for walk-in services. For an appointment, call 842-1040.

Art auction

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will present its 32nd annual Art Exhibition and Auction, Feb. 28 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The exhibition starts at 5:30 p.m. and the auction at 7. Tickets are \$10; and proceeds benefit the OCWC welfare fund. Tickets can be purchased at the club (830-2582) or through an OCWC representative. For more information, call Natalie Taylor or Kathleen Riester 876-5397.

Welfare requests

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club distributes money each year to a variety of requesting organizations. OCWC Welfare Request Forms will be available in the group's newsletter "Southern Exposure," at Army Community Service, by mail — RSAOCWC, Attention: Welfare Chairman, P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35808 — or via Internet from mtbissell@firstcommand.com. The request deadline is Feb. 27. For more information call Mary Bissell 837-3310, extension 109.

Story time for preschoolers

The MWR Post Library has "Story time for Preschoolers" every Wednesday from 10-10:30 a.m. The library, in building 3323 on Redeye Road, is open to the entire Redstone community. This is an opportunity for young children to become familiar with their library and be exposed to their own "book place" in a child-friendly environment. The parent or caregiver must accompany the child and must be registered to check out books and materials. There are books, audio books

and DVDs available. For more information, call librarian Gail Alden 876-4741.

African-American festival

Team Redstone will present its ninth annual Festival of African-American Music, Art and Portrayals from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium. This event, with the theme "Each One Value One," is sponsored by the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles, Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office. Kimberly Essex of television station WAFF 48 is the emcee.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. To bid on this property, go to www.gsaauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Multicultural choir

The Redstone Multicultural Choir is reactivating and could use your vocal talents. If you would like to participate, call Carol Howard 876-3139.

Master's degrees

Nova Southeastern University will hold an information meeting on its weekend master's of business administration program Thursday at 6 p.m. at Calhoun Community College, conference room 101-E, 102 Wynn Drive. For more information call 800-672-7223, ext. 5046 or Bruce Pieper (256) 227-7899.

Community chorus

Ovation Arts and Madison Community Chorus will present "Li'l Abner," March 4-6 at the Von Braun Center Playhouse and March 12-13 at the Butler High auditorium. For tickets call 468-1632 or 468-1633.

Grace Lutheran open house

Grace Lutheran School, 3321 South Memorial Parkway, will hold its annual open house Thursday from 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Parents will have the opportunity to tour the school, visit classrooms and teachers, see the curriculum materials used, learn about the music, computer, and art programs offered, ask about the sports programs offered for grades PK-eighth, and pick up enrollment information. Tours will be given on the hour. Also, information will be shared about the Summer Camp that will run from May 25 to Aug. 6 (11 weeks at \$100 per week) for children age 4 (as of Sept. 2, 2003) through the eighth grade. Grace Lutheran School is celebrating more than 40 years of Christian education in the Huntsville/Madison community. For more information, call principal Ray Hauer 881-0553.

Fashion show

The Janice Mitchell Isbell Academy will present the "Men at Their Finest" fashion show and dinner at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Holiday Inn, Madison Square Mall. "All are invited to share this enjoyable evening with us and serve a good cause," a prepared release said. The Isbell Academy serves students with learning disabilities or who are performing below grade level expectations. Its goal is to

remediate each student to grade level expectations and return them to their regular school. For information on the show, call Janice Isbell 859-9758 or the school 746-9206.

Cultural events volunteers

Volunteers are sought for the Installation Cultural Events Committee. The objective is to plan and execute cultural activities that will be of interest to the Arsenal community. Employees must have permission from their supervisor to serve on the committee. Those interested should call Gladys Lee 876-5844.

Young Marines

The Young Marines of North Alabama, for boys and girls ages 8-17, will hold a parent orientation Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. at the Marine Corps Reserve Center on South Memorial Parkway. "The Young Marines program educates and inspires youth within our communities by promoting a healthy lifestyle through instructional and adventurous activities," a prepared release said. For more information, call Gunnery Sgt. Doby 213-9784.

AER representatives

Training for key representatives for the 2004 Army Emergency Relief fund-raising campaign will be held today from 10-11 and Thursday from 1-2 at building 3338, ACS conference room. Topics for these training sessions include collection procedures, turn-ins, scheduling fundraisers, and associated paperwork. For more information, call Kristi Foster of Army Community Service 876-5397.

Logistics support activity

Members of the Logistics Support Activity plan the following events for Black History Month: static displays on the first, second and third floors of building 5307; a soul food feast Thursday at the Rustic Lodge with artist Will Davis as guest speaker, ticket price is \$6; lunch and learn Friday at conference room 7142; and a black history trivia contest weekly with Audra Allen as point of contact.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesday 9-5 and Wednesday and Thursday 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9-12:30. Appointments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. "Feb. 26 is the last day we will accept winter items," a prepared release said. "We will not be accepting any clothing until March 23." Donations are accepted, and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-

Bookkeeper job

There's an opening for a bookkeeper at the Thrift Shop. The salary is \$4,200 annually for about 10 hours per week. Applicants should have a thorough knowledge of Quick Books financial program and be proficient in bookkeeping procedures. Applications are available during business hours at the Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road. The deadline is April 1. For information call Isabel Boicourt 881-6992.

Donation requests

The Thrift Shop is accepting written requests for donations. It can only accept requests from charitable organizations that have a federal tax exemption number. The deadline is March 31. Include your federal tax number and why you want a donation with your request letter to: Thrift Shop, Attention Mary McCarthy, building 3209 on Hercules Road, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

NCO/Soldier of Quarter lunch

The NCO/Soldier of the Quarter luncheon is Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Officers and Civilians Club. Price for lunch is \$7 in advance and \$8 at the door. RSVP through the CSM Office (Sheila McCrary 876-1874) or Protocol (Charles Pollard 876-6899).

Book sale benefit

The Post Restaurant Fund cafeteria in building 5302 is having a book sale Feb. 24-25 from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Civilian Welfare Fund. For more information, call 876-8741.

Military spouse preference

Spouses may receive Military Spouse Preference hiring when applying for federal jobs. Come and find out what the requirements and procedures are to be considered for preference. A representative from the Civilian Personal Advisory Center will provide information explaining the eligibility requirements for both status and non-status applicants. This information session is Feb. 25 at 10 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338. Call 876-0446 to register.

Bible studies

Spring semester Bible studies for the Protestant Women of the Chapel began Feb. 1. All classes will be held at Bicentennial Chapel. For more information, contact jennifer@ministryforlife.com or call the chapel 876-2409.

Redstone motorcycle training

Experienced Riders Motorcycle Training is conducted at the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership off I-565 and Greenbrier Road. Soldiers, DoD civilians and military retirees are funded by the government. Contractors pay \$75 per person. For registration information, call Keith Coates 876-3383 or John Zuber 876-3114 of the Garrison Safety Office.

AIDS awareness

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. will host its third annual Youth Summit on HIV/AIDS, March 13 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 315 Winchester Road. For more information, call Kelli Curry 837-2544 or the AIDS Action Coalition 536-4700.

Continuing education

Oakwood College's Leadership Education for the Adult Professional bachelor's degree classes will begin this spring at Redstone Arsenal. Pre-register from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 19-22 at the Education Center, building 3222 on Snooper Road. Earn your degree in 18 months. For more information, call 876-9761.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE. ALABAMA AREA

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WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)

- Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC
- All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)
 Compensably Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation)
- All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)
- All Federal Employees
- Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)
 Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.
- Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)
 Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)
- Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required

OTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedure IOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e., Cashier, Food Service, sustodial, Bartender. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com, or you may telephone

Army family team building

Let Army Family Team Building help you unlock the mysteries of volunteer management and leadership challenges. AFTB Level II will be held March 8-11 from 6-9 p.m. at building 3338 on Redeye Road. Level II is designed for emerging leaders within the Army community — experienced family members who have begun to assume leadership roles within the community and their unit or organization. Courses offered include Introduction to Effective Leadership, Volunteer Management, Management Skills (Communication, Conflict, Group, Stress, Time and Meeting Management), and Problem Solving. Call 876-5397 by Feb. 27 to enroll in this free seminar. Free on-post childcare is available while you are in class — ask about it when you enroll.

Income tax course

Learn to prepare your own taxes from a tax professional. The Redstone Arsenal Extension of Calhoun Community College has scheduled a course on how to prepare individual income tax returns Besides teaching how to do taxes, specific tax issues of interest to participants will be addressed. Course dates are March 11 through May 11, Tuesday and Thursday, 7:20-10 p.m. Registration continues through May 8. Cost of the course is \$252. Call 876-7431 for more information.

Calhoun registration

Registration for the second spring "minimester" at the Redstone extension of Calhoun Community College continues through May 8. The term dates are March 10 through May 11. Call 876-7431 for more information or visit Calhoun's web site www.calhoun.edu.

Mardi Gras ball

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Xi Omicron Chapter, invites you to celebrate Mardi Gras 2004 and return to "The Roaring '20s." The masquerade ball is March 5 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Omega Community Center, 181 Import Circle northwest. The donation is \$15 per person tax deductible and all proceeds benefit the chapter's annual scholarship fund. Contact any member of XI Omicron Chapter for tickets or call Lawrence McRae 289-1215.

Pancake day benefit

The Huntsville Kiwanis Club is sponsoring its 27th annual Pancake Day, March 6. All you can eat pancakes, sausage, juice, milk and coffee will be served in the Huntsville High cafeteria from 6 a.m. to noon. "This is your chance to support the Kiwanis programs and have a great breakfast, too," a prepared release said. Tickets at the door are \$5 each but you can purchase \$4 advance tickets by calling Charlie Urban 955-7662.

Black history celebration

The public is invited to a Black History Month Celebration from 2-4 p.m. Saturday at Parisian (near the cosmetic section) in Madison Square Mall. This free event will include music by the Oakwood Academy Gospel Choir, African drumming, a saxophonist and more. For more information, call 882-2592.